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Signature	Dave Glisson	**Date**	June 30, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	Attorney Docket	SHIM-007
	First Named Inventor	Hideo Ago et al.
	Application Number	Unassigned
	Filing Date	Even Date Herewith
	Group Art Unit	Unassigned
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
	Title	**HCV Polymerase Suitable for Crystal Structure Analysis and Method for Using the Enzyme**

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment to the patent application identified above. Prior to examination of the subject application, please enter the following amendments to the specification and claims:

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, beneath the Title, add:

--This application claims priority to Japanese Application No. 11-188630, filed July 2, 1999 and Japanese Application No. 11-192488, filed July 7, 1999, filed under 35 U.S.C. § 119.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **cancel** claims 1-18 and **add** new claims 19-36.

19. (New) A polypeptide, characterized by

(a) derived from HCV polymerase NS5B having an HCV polymerase activity;

(b) consisting of an amino acid sequence X-Y;

wherein X comprises a consecutive amino acid sequence which is a portion of the NS5B, an N-terminal amino acid of X is the amino acid residue 1 (Ser) of the NS5B, and a C-terminal amino acid of X is an amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 531 (Lys) to 570 (Arg) of the NS5B;

wherein one or more amino acids in the amino acid sequence of X may be modified, and methionine residues in the amino acid sequence of X may be replaced by selenomethionine residues;